

## Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /141 W

----- 067099

R 231408Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1875

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9411

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SGEN, PFOR, NI

SUBJECT: "NIGERIANISM" - A UNIQUELY NIGERIAN WELTANSCHAUUNG

1. EMBASSY IS TODAY POUCHING OUR A-265 ON ABOVE  
SUBJECT, WHICH WARRANTS CAREFUL READING BY ALL WHO  
ARE INVOLVED WITH USG-FMG RELATIONSHIP,7

2. AIRGRAM ATTEMPTS EXPLAIN AND DESCRIBE UNIQUE  
COMPLEX OF ATTITUDES AND OUTLOOK WHICH GOVERN  
NIGERIAN BEHAVIOR IN DEALINGS WITH NON-NIGERIANS.  
GROUNDED IN NIGERIA'S CULTURE AND TRADITIONS,  
AND GIVEN CURRENT FORM BY EXPERIENCE OF CIVIL  
WAR AND AWARENESS OF COUNTRY'S EXCEPTIONAL  
RESOURCE BASE, "NIGERIANISM" SOMETIMES APPEARS  
AS ARROGANCE OR SELF-ASSERTIVENESS BUT IS IN  
FACT HIGHLY COMPLEX PHENOMENON. AS NEAR-IDEOLOGY,  
"NIGERIANISM" DICTATES MILITANT INSISTENCE ON  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY, SELF-RESPECT, AND SOVEREIGNTY,  
AND INCORPORATES ELEMENTS OF SUSPICION AND  
DISTRUST OF PROPOSALS FROM NON-NIGERIAN SOURCES.

3. NIGERIANS BELIEVE APPROACH EMBODIED IN  
"NIGERIANISM" IS WHOLLY APPROPRIATE TO THEIR  
NEEDS AND SITUATION, AND WE SEE NO REASON  
TO ANTICIPATE ANY CHANGE IN WAY NIGERIANS DEAL  
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WITH OUTSIDE WORLD. DESPITE DIFFICULTIES IT

POSES FOR NON-NIGERIANS SEEKING TO DO BUSINESS  
HERE, "NIGERIANISM" IS NOT NECESSARILY AGAINST  
FUNDAMENTAL USG INTERESTS. WITH UNDERSTANDING  
OF THE PHENOMENON AND APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS  
IN OUR OWN APPROACH, WE CAN LIVE SUCCESSFULLY  
WITH "NIGERIANISM" IN FUTURE AS WE HAVE DONE  
IN PAST.  
REINHARDT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SOVEREIGNTY, NATIONALISM, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CULTURES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LAGOS09411  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LAGOS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731117/aaaaambn.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** "NIGERIANISM" - A UNIQUELY NIGERIAN WELTANSCHAUUNG  
**TAGS:** SGEN, PFOR, NI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005